

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1506

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 12080

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, US, CH, JA

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL STAFF DELEGATION BRIEFS JAPANESE ON PRC
TRIP

SUMMARY: FONOFF OFFICIALS BRIEFED BY MEMBERS CONGRESSIONAL
STAFFDEL TO PRC PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN TOUGH
CHINESE STATEMENTS ON USE OF FORCE IN SOLUTION OF
TAIWAN QUESTION. EXPRESSIONS OF CHINESE REGRET
OVER MIYAZAWA'S STATEMENTS TO SENATOR MANSFIELD
ALSO ATTRACTED ATTENTION. SPECULATING INFORMALLY,
JAPANESE WONDERED WHETHER HARDENING OF CHINESE LINE IS
NOT IN PART REACTION TO MIYAZAWA'S PREACHMENTS OF CAUTION.
CHINESE SEEM TO BE SUGGESTING, JAPANESE GUESS, THAT US AND
JAPANESE POLICY AIMED AT PROTECTING STATUS QUO ON
TAIWAN COULD ENCOURAGE USE OF FORCE AND ULTIMATELY
BE FAR MORE DESTABILIZING THAN EARLY SETTLEMENT ON
PEKING'S TERMS. END SUMMARY.

1. MEMBERS OF CONGRESSIONAL STAFF (LAMAR,
MACFADDEN, SULLIVAN, AND LIEBERTHAL) BRIEFED FONOFF
(ASIAN BUREAU DIRGENEDAMURA, PLANNING DIVDIR
MATANO, FIRST NORTH AMERICAN DIVDIR WATANABE, PLANNING
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DIV DEP DIR ARAFUNE, CHINA DIV MEMBER MINE) UPON

RETURN FROM PRC AT DINNER HOSTED BY MATANO AUG 11.
STAFFDEL TOLD JAPANESE THAT VICE FONMIN WANG HAI-JUNG HAD
REITERATED USUAL REFERENCES TO SHANGHAI COMMUNIQUE AND THREE
CONDITIONS FOR NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS. SHE ADDED THAT TAIWAN
IS LIKE NOOSE AROUND NECK OF THE US, WHICH US SHOULD
TAKE OFF FORTHRIGHTLY. OTHERWISE, POSSIBLY ONE DAY
PLA WOULD USE BAYONETS TO HELP US REMOVE NOOSE. THERE
WILL HAVE TO BE FIGHT ON QUESTION OF TAIWAN WANG
CONTINUED, BECAUSE PRC DOES NOT BELIEVE IN PEACEFUL
TRANSITION. WHEN AND HOW THE PRC WILL LIBERATE TAIWAN
IS A PURELY CHINESE MATTER IN WHICH NO OTHER COUNTRY
HAS RIGHT TO INTERFERE.

2. STAFFDEL TOLD JAPANESE WANG HAD DESCRIBED
STATE OF SINO-JAPANESE RELATIONS AS "NEITHER SO GOOD
NOR SO BAD." SHE SAID SHE REGRETTED FONMIN MIYAZAWA'S
RECENT STATEMENT TO SENATOR MANSFIELD, CONSIDERING
IT A SERIOUS VIOLATION OF THE PRINCIPLES OF THE JOINT
COMMUNIQUE OF SEPT 72 AND CRUDE INTERFERENCE IN THE
INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF CHINA.

3. LIEBERTHAL MENTIONED CONVERSATION WITH MOFA OFFICIAL
NANCY TANG AT SUBSEQUENT USLO RECEPTION AT WHICH SHE SAID
PEACEFUL LIBERATION OF TAIWAN CANNOT OCCUR SINCE
THAT STILL PROFFESSES DESIRE TO RETAKE MAINLAND
AND WILL NEVER GIVE UP ISLAND PEACEFULLY. SHE SAID THAT
RECENT STATEMENTS IN AMERICA, INCLUDING THAT OF SENATOR
GOLDWATER AND A NEW YORK TIMES EDITORIAL SUGGESTING
AMERICANS HAVE SOME SAY IN HOW TAIWAN IS LIBERATED,
ARE COMPLETELY ERONEOUS.

4. STAFFDEL MEMBERS NOTED THAT BOTH HARDLINE
THEME ON TAIWAN AND PIQUE OVER MIYAZAWA STATEMENTS WERE ECHOED
AT LOWER LEVELS BY CHINESE THE DELEGATION MET OUTSIDE
OF PEKING. LIEBERTHAL ADDED THAT STATEMENTS ON USE
OF FORCE SEEMED INTENDED FOR AMERICAN EARS. DURING THE
FLIGHT FROM PEKING TO TOKYO, HE HAD COMPARED NOTES
WITH A MEMBER OF CANADIAN DELEGATION, WHO SAID
THAT CHINESE EXPOSITIONS ON TAIWAN QUESTION HAD BEEN
USUAL ANODYNE PRO FORMA STATEMENTS STRESSING
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CHINESE PATIENCE.

5. JAPANESE AT TABLE KEENLY INTERESTED IN STAFFDEL
REPORT. SPECULATING INFORMALLY, THEY WONDERED
WHETHER MIYAZAWA'S STATEMENTS OF CAUTION MIGHT NOT HAVE
BEEN CATALYST FOR HARDENING OF CHINESE LINE.
PERHAPS CHINESE WERE SUGGESTING THAT US AND JAPANESE
POLICY AIMED AT PROTECTING STATUS QUO ON TAIWAN

COULD ENCOURAGE PRC USE OF FORCE AND ULTIMATELY BE FAR MORE
DESTABILIZING THAN EARLY SETTLEMENT ON
PEKING'S TERMS. THERE WAS GENERAL AGREEMENT HOWEVER, THAT
TOUGH CHINESE LINE MORE A POSTURE THAN REFLECTION OF
TRUE INTENT.
SHOESMITH

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